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Portrait of Judge Humphrey

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Reproduction of portrait presented:



Henry Salem Hubbel, Pins.

J. O. Humphrey

PROCEEDINGS

*Upon the Occasion
of the Presentation
of a*

PORTRAIT

of the late

Honorable J OTIS HUMPHREY

to the

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the Southern District of Illinois, at
Springfield, on February Twelfth, Nine-
teen Hundred and Twenty-three

COMMITTEE ON PRESENTATION

WALTER MCC. ALLEN ARTHUR. M. FITZGERALD

ROBERT C. BROWN LOGAN HAY

VINCENT Y. DALLMAN WILLIAM L. PATTON

PHILIP BARTON WARREN

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT

JANUARY TERM, A. D. 1923

In the matter of the Presentation of
a Portrait of the late Honorable
J OTIS HUMPHREY.

Before PAGE, Circuit Judge

AND

FITZHENRY, ENGLISH and WILKERSON
District Judges.



Motion

By

WALTER McC. ALLEN.

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

On behalf of more than one hundred and fifty members of the Bar, and of a number of citizens of Springfield whose names appear in the written motion, I move this Honorable Court that it accept and take into its custody, to be hung upon the walls of this Court Room, a Portrait of the late Honorable J Otis Humphrey, Judge of this Court from 1901 to 1918. The portrait is by Mr. Henry Salem Hubbell and will now be unveiled.

Mr. Bruce A. Campbell of the East St. Louis Bar will address the Court in support of the motion.



Address

By

BRUCE A. CAMPBELL.

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

*On the 14th day of June, 1918, a great Judge
and a great man passed away.*



ALTHOUGH we who knew him and who marvelled at his forcefulness and strength did not think of him as old, yet, at the time of his death he had almost reached the allotted age of three score years and ten.

In the month which he loved, because with

the freshness and life of its vegetation and the brightness of its verdure, it represented to him the living evidence of a growth directed by Nature's God, he ceased his labors and went away.

In this City which he loved because it represented what was near and dear to him in this life, the place of his struggles and successes, the place of home and family and friends, the place where lived and now is buried the immortal Lincoln, whom he loved and revered above all men — in this City, J Otis Humphrey solved the great mystery of the ages and entered the mysterious realm of death to rest and sleep and wait until he sees the glory of the rising sun on the resurrection morn.

I do not purpose to detail the episodes of his busy life. In funeral oration, in the public press and in memorials spread upon the records of this Court, appear not only the mile-

stones of his career, but also words of appreciation by those who knew him better than I and who were far more fit and capable to tell the story of what he was and what he did.

It is not the date of birth, the names of parents, the details of education or the offices, other than Judge of this Court, which he held, with which we are now concerned.

How the man and the Judge were made is not now so important as what the resultant man and Judge was and did, which causes us, nearly five years after his death, to pause in our affairs and gather here to pay tribute of our respect to his memory, to laud his accomplishments and record our appreciation of his character and deeds.

My acquaintance with Judge Humphrey began in 1905 when I met him in my home city, where he was presiding at a term of this Court then being held there. Later in the same year

our county was detached from this District and became a part of the newly created Eastern District of Illinois. From then until a few years ago, I saw him only a few times, either upon infrequent appearances here in this Court or when I met him occasionally in social intercourse. During the interim between the death of Judge Wright and the appointment of Judge English as Judge in our Federal Court, for more than a year, he held court in our District and I became better acquainted with him. I learned to know him better and with that knowledge there came to me as to all who came into contact with him, a respect for his character and ability and an appreciation of the great qualities of heart and mind which made him the great man and Judge that he really was.

Even with that acquaintance, I feel ill prepared to express adequately what you who knew him so much better, could better do.

On June 2nd, 1903, the Bar of this District presented to this Court the portraits which now hang upon these walls — John Marshall, Walter Q. Gresham, David Davis, Samuel H. Treat, Thomas Drummond, William J. Allen, John McLean, Nathaniel Pope and John M. Harlan. What a galaxy of names!

All but one of them had presided in this Court; four of them had served as members of the Supreme Court of the land.

Addresses were made upon that occasion by Mr. Philip B. Warren, Senator Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana, Judge C. C. Kohlsaat, Judge Lawrence Weldon, Judge James A. Creighton, Hon. John N. Jewett, Judge J. C. Allen, Mr. Logan Hay, General Alfred Orendorff and Senator Shelby M. Cullom. Judge Humphrey accepted these portraits upon behalf of the Court. With brevity that told the story, with that condensation of language and

clearness of expression that was always his, he responded to the speeches of presentation and among other things said:

“Gentlemen, you have my personal thanks for these portraits. To the Court they will be a constant source of sympathy and strength; to counsel, an inspiration encouraging the best that is in him to ripen into the best he can do; the jurors, witnesses and auditors, a remainder of the noble record already made and a pledge that the future shall be alike secure. To all these portraits will stand for absolute impartiality, fearless independence, unfaltering justice and untarnished honor. They will be received into the custody of the Court and have a permanent place on the walls of the Court Room.”

Today, twenty years later, we bring his portrait and add it to those which he then accepted. May we not say that thereby the light of these walls is not dimmed but that another glorious star will soon be added and that the inspiration

of these walls is not diminished by the addition we make here today.

When Judge Humphrey spoke the words above quoted he had served a little more than two years as Judge of this Court. When he died he had served here seventeen years.

As I view it, that declaration of his was but the voicing of his ideals as to what a Judge should be and his declaration that he purposed to be just that kind of a Judge. "Absolute impartiality, fearless independence, unfaltering justice and untarnished honor" — what a creed for any Judge! What an ideal for any man called upon to preside as arbiter between his fellow men and between the nation and its citizens.

Chief Justice Marshall in the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829-1830, when, although nearly seventy-five years of age and after nearly thirty years' service as the head of

the greatest and most unique court in the history of the world, reluctantly responded to the call of the people to further public service, and in discussing in that connection the duties of a Judge said:

“He has to pass between the Government and the man whom the Government is prosecuting; between the most powerful individual in the community and the poorest and most unpopular. It is of the last importance that, in the exercise of these duties, he should observe the utmost fairness. Need I press the necessity of this? Does not every man feel that his own personal security and the security of his property depends upon that fairness? The Judicial Department comes home in its effects to every man’s fireside; it passes on his property and his reputation, his life, his all. * * * I have always thought, from my earliest youth until now, that the greatest scourge an angry Heaven ever inflicted upon an ungrateful and sinning

people was an ignorant, a corrupt and a dependent judiciary.”

How well Judge Humphrey lived up to these ideals and how well he measured up to the standards of Marshall and of himself is now a matter of history. The record is written and the book is closed.

He was absolutely impartial. In his Court he knew no friends and he knew no foes. To him the rich and the poor, the popular and the unpopular, the great and the small, could come with assurances that each would get his due. Every man could be assured of a square deal and none could complain of unfairness or bad treatment.

He not only was absolutely impartial, but he believed in unfaltering justice. While he wanted no guilty man to escape, he wanted no innocent man to be found guilty. To him laws were meant for enforcement and he believed

that only by enforcement against the guilty could the dignity and majesty of the law be maintained. Like Samuel Johnson, he believed that "the law is the last result of human wisdom acting upon human experience for the benefit of the public." Judge Humphrey's justice was like that of Aristotle, "That virtue of the soul which is distributive according to desert."

But all this does not mean that he was not and could not be merciful. To him justice was to do what was just, and what was just was to him what was best not only for the individual but for the Government and for society, and the principles of the law and of the Constitution were never with him subordinated to a maudlin mercy, which is only another name for sentiment.

He possessed fearless independence and untarnished honor. I knew of no Judge who possessed these traits to a greater degree. It

was not an independence that was the product of stubbornness but rather the independence that comes from honesty and from a knowledge of the integrity of one's intentions. It was an honor that came from a pure mind and a great soul. If he thought he was right no power could move him to take another position. In the now famous cases of the Packers, not even the ire or criticism of the man who was then President could cause him to waver or to swerve. He thought he was right. He thought he was correctly interpreting and upholding the law of the land and that was the end of it. With his views of the law and justice of the matter, he would have been a coward and a poltroon, as he viewed it, unworthy of the high position which he held, if he had done otherwise than he did do. He could not tolerate trickery or chicanery. His life was an open book. He was fair and he wanted others to be

likewise. He was the soul of honor, both as a Judge and as a man, and to him I think it was the greatest virtue of them all.

He revered the Constitution and the laws. I think we may well compare him with John Marshall in this respect. He believed in property and property rights and in a sound Government that would protect that property. To him protection of life and liberty and property was no wild vagary of the law but it represented real fundamental principles of Government. He wanted a Government that would protect mankind in these inalienable rights and he had no patience with any political theory which threatened to invade these guaranteed rights of American citizenship.

So as a Judge we have weighed him upon his own scales and we have not found him wanting.

Independent without being stubborn.

Fearless without being fool hardy.

Courteous without being fawning.

Honest without being vain.

Just without being unmerciful.

Honorable without being prudish.

Impartial without being technical.

Learned without being pedantic, and

Merciful without being sentimental or foolish.

He stands forth as a great and satisfactory Judge who will long be remembered by all of us who had the good fortune to know him.

About a year ago I went to one of our great cities to attend the funeral of a dear and intimate friend who had been Mayor of that City and who, on account of ill health, had just retired from that office. One of the great daily papers of that City and of an opposite political faith from my friend editorially spoke of him thus:

“A good man, an honest man, a courageous man, a game fighter and a gentleman, a conscientious worker who gave life itself to his task, a partisan with independent spirit, one who dared to stand for what he believed was right, despite the fact that men might differ with him and public sentiment might hold that he was wrong. ‘Here was a man.’ ”

In preparing what I am saying today those words came back to me and I quote them here today as applying as well to Judge Humphrey as to him for whom they were expressly written. And what more could be said of any man? For it implies goodness, honesty, courage, gameness, regard for others, steadfastness, firm beliefs, regard for the opinions of others, adherence to duty in the face of obstacles, conscientious devotion to duty and all of the other traits which go to make up a real man. I might stop here and be content with that characterization of our friend.

But I trust you will pardon one or two examples of some of these traits. I shall first allude to his experience as the friend and adviser of Senator Cullom. Senator Cullom was his friend. He had done him favors in the past. He needed friends from time to time in his political career and those friends must needs be stalwart, unfaltering and true. When the time came for aid from those friends Judge Humphrey never faltered. He might do as others did and seek the side of apparent public favor, but he was not of that kind. The fact that a friend apparently faced defeat only spurred him on to greater efforts in his behalf.

In the State Capitol grounds of the State of Tennessee there stands a monument erected by the school children of Tennessee to a youth of that great State who, at the age of twenty years, was executed during the war between the States because, when captured within the Union

lines, although in the uniform of the Confederate, Army, he carried dispatches which placed him in the category of a spy. Time and again he was told that if he would tell the name of the man who had given him those dispatches and whom they still believed to be within the Federal lines, his life would be spared. Time and again he refused. Just before his execution and as he stood upon the scaffold, the same offer was repeated to him, and he then made the statement which those school children have inscribed upon the monument:

“I would rather die a thousand deaths than betray a friend.” And those school children also placed upon that monument another statement concerning Sam Davis, and they said:

“He lost all he had—Life;

He gained what he lacked—Immortality.”

And so can we say of Judge Humphrey. He was one of the most loyal men to his friends I

ever knew. He could always be depended upon to stand up for a friend at all times and in all places.

Again may I call your attention to his love for Abraham Lincoln and to all that pertained to Lincoln. I think he patterned his life after his great idol—Lincoln. To him Lincoln was more than a man, he was a personality and an ideal, and no man could seek to mould himself after a better pattern. It is particularly appropriate that these exercises should be held today and in this City—on the birthday of the great emancipator, whom our friend loved and revered.

Judge Humphrey had his faults, his weaknesses and his frailties. Who of us have not, and what human ever lived who did not? They were smaller and fewer than most of us have. They were only the little things that make men human and without which men

would not be the pleasant, companionable human beings that they are. Those faults we write upon the sands and the uncomparable virtues of the men we write upon the imperishable tablets of love and memory.

Frank Stanton, the poet, once said in homely language:

“This old world we’re living in
Is mighty hard to beat.
With every rose there comes a thorn,
But ain’t the roses sweet.”

And so it is with life, and so it is with men, and so it is with friends and even with Judges. And when we think of the virtues of his life, of his character as a man and as a friend and of his incomparable capacity and ability as a Judge, we can well say that Judge Humphrey was one of the roses which made of his friendship and acquaintance one of the sweet and lasting memories of this life.

If I could characterize him further I would say, as Byron said of another :

“A truer, nobler, trustier heart,
More loving and more loyal,
Never beat within a human breast.”

And could I write one epitaph to place upon his tombstone here in the City where he lived and died, I would write :

“Like Lincoln, whom he loved, the world is richer because he lived, the world is poorer because he died.”

And so your Honors, I come today as the representative of the lawyers who practice at this bar and on their behalf present to this Court the portrait of our late friend and Judge.

May I express the hope, yes more, the belief, that it will only add to the inspiration of those who sit here and work here, which these other portraits gave to him, and that here in this Court Room, as it does now and as it has always done, his standards of absolute impartiality,

fearless independence, unfaltering justice and untarnished honor may ever be the watchword of those who occupy the exalted and powerful position of Judge of this Court.

And may the record of his service here and his life as a citizen, his integrity and his honor, his great character be ever to all of us an inspiration to perform our full duty as members of a great profession whose great traditions and splendid history have contributed so greatly to the splendid government and institutions which are our birthright and our heritage as citizens of a great nation.





Acceptance by the Court

FITZHENRY, DISTRICT JUDGE:

The motion to accept the portrait of the Hon. J Otis Humphrey will of course be allowed, and the portrait will be accepted with the sincere thanks of the Court to the donors.



THE remarks of Mr. Campbell, President of the Illinois State Bar Association, are peculiarly appropriate and thoroughly justified by the life, work and record of the distinguished jurist whom we endeavor to honor today.

The ceremonies of this hour complete, in a way, the judicial history of this Court for the first century of its existence.

When Illinois was admitted into the Union and the District comprised the entire State of Illinois, the presiding Judge was Nathaniel Pope, who, prior to the passage of the enabling act taking the Illinois Territory into the Union, had represented the Territory as a Delegate to Congress. He was succeeded by Judge Thomas Drummond, whose district was also the entire State. When first appointed, Judge Drummond was a resident of Galena, but afterwards took up his residence in the City of Chicago, and continued as Judge of the District until the District was divided into the Northern and Southern Districts, when he was assigned to the Northern District. Judge Samuel Treat resigned his position as Judge of the Supreme Court of Illinois to accept the ap-

pointment by President Pierce, in 1855, as the Judge of the Southern District. On the death of Judge Treat in 1887, William Joshua Allen came to the bench of this Court and was the fourth Judge. Upon his death in January, 1901, Judge Humphrey was appointed as the fifth Judge.

So, with the ceremonies of the day, we are placing upon the walls of this Court room the portrait of the fifth Judge of the United States Court for the territory now comprising this judicial district. It is true that many of the counties of Illinois which were formerly associated with the thirty-nine counties now comprising the district have been presided over by other judges and undoubtedly during that period other judges from other districts in the circuit held court in this District.

It is about twenty years ago that a similar ceremony occurred in this Court room. At

that time the portraits of the four Justices of the Supreme Court and the four District Judges, as well as the portrait of Judge Gresham, were presented to the Court, and from the date of their acceptance they were undoubtedly the source of much inspiration, courage and strength to Judge Humphrey, and the other judges who have occupied this bench.

Judge Humphrey had taken a considerable part in the efforts of the Bar to assemble these pictures and present them to the Court, and it is indeed fitting that now his portrait should be added to the galaxy which adorns the walls of this court room.

It was Ruskin who said: "Painting, with all its technicalities, difficulties and peculiar ends, is nothing but a noble and expressive language, invaluable as the vehicle of thought, but by itself nothing."

The artist in this instance speaks in a noble and in an expressive language. He has not only studied the likenesses in existence of the deceased jurist, but he has also studied his thoughts, ambitions, hopes, and character, and they have all found crystalization in the portrait which is presented today. Indeed, in this instance, the artist has spoken in a "noble and expressive language," and to the presiding Judge of this Court it will be, in a way, the presence of the exalted character, his thoughts, ideals and ambitions in this court room, and it, with its associate portraits, will be the source of strength, energy and courage to Judge Humphrey's successors.

Upon this occasion I feel, as the distinguished gentleman who has just closed his eulogy felt, that the most appropriate thing that could be said upon this occasion was what Judge Humphrey said himself from this bench

when, about twenty years ago, the other portraits were presented to him. It was the closing sentence or two that were spoken by the Judge and I am going to avail myself of the privilege of using the same words:

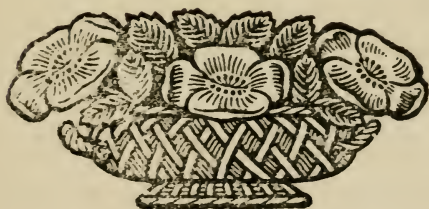
“To the Court they will be a constant source of sympathy and strength; to counsel, an inspiration encouraging the best that is in him to ripen into the best he can do; to jurors, witnesses and auditors, a reminder of the noble record already made and a pledge that the future shall be alike secure. To all, these portraits will stand for absolute impartiality, fearless independence, unfaltering justice and untarnished honor.”

This portrait will be gratefully received into the custody of the Court and it will have a permanent place on the walls of this Court room. It will also be ordered that the proceedings of the day, including the address of Mr. Campbell, which has just been delivered, be

spread at large upon the records of this Court, and Mr. Clerk, it is so ordered.

Is there any other business to come before the Court? If not, Mr. Bailiff, you may adjourn Court until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

ADJOURNED.



The following Memorial was presented to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois, at Springfield, on the 15th day of October, 1918, and recorded in Book 2, page 731, of the Daily Record of Court Proceedings. As it furnishes important data on the life of Judge Humphrey, the Committee is glad to make it available to his friends.



A Memorial Commemorative

of the Life and Character of

HONORABLE J OTIS HUMPHREY



ON Friday, June 14, 1918, in the City of Springfield, Illinois, Honorable J Otis Humphrey, United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois, departed this life.

Judge Humphrey was a native of Morgan County, Illinois, having been born in that County December 30, 1850. He was the son of William and Sarah Stocker Humphrey. He was descended from an old English family. Major Humphrey, his great-grandfather, won his title as the commander of a battalion of the

Fourth Rhode Island Infantry of the American army during the War of Independence.

Later, members of the Humphrey family came West, and Judge Humphrey's parents settled in Morgan County, Illinois, where his father, William Humphrey, died in 1893.

Judge Humphrey was reared on a farm in Auburn Township, Sangamon County, and his early education was secured in the District School. Later he attended the High School at Virden, Macoupin County, for two years, after which he spent five years in Shurtleff College, Upper Alton, Illinois. After graduation he taught for two years in that college.

He later entered the law office of Robinson, Knapp & Shutt, in Springfield, and in 1880 he was admitted to the bar, working that year in the office of Hon. John A. Chestnut, supervisor of the census for the Eighth District of Illinois. In 1881 and 1882 he was a clerk in

the offices of the Illinois Railroad and Warehouse Commission. In 1883 he formed a law partnership with Hon. Henry S. Greene and Frank Burnett, this firm continuing until Mr. Frank Burnett left Springfield to go West, the firm then continuing under the style of Greene & Humphrey.

Mr. Henry S. Greene was one of the best known lawyers in the middle West and had previously been associated in partnership with Hon. Milton Hay and Hon. David T. Littler, the firm having been Hay, Greene & Littler. During the existence of the firm of Greene, Burnett & Humphrey, both Mr. Hay and Mr. Littler had offices adjoining those of the new firm, and Judge Humphrey had the rare opportunity of personal association and advice with these most able and representative men. After the death of Mr. Greene, Judge Humphrey formed a partnership with R. H. Mc-

Anulty and Walter M. Allen, the firm being styled Humphrey, McAnulty & Allen, and continuing in the active practice of the law in this city until 1901, when Judge Humphrey was appointed to the Federal Bench.

Judge Humphrey was for many years prominent in the politics of the Republican party in Illinois. His political activities began in 1876 under the tutelage of the late Hon. Shelby M. Cullom, who was that year elected Governor of Illinois. In 1884 he was an elector on the Republican ticket in the Cleveland-Blaine campaign. In 1896 he was a delegate to the National Republican Convention in St. Louis. He was for four years Chairman of the Sangamon County Republican Committee. On July 1, 1897, President McKinley appointed him United States District Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, and in 1901 he was appointed Judge of the United States

District Court for the Southern District of Illinois, to succeed Judge William J. Allen, deceased.

He was married in 1879 to Miss Mary E. Scott, daughter of the Rev. A. H. Scott, a Baptist Clergyman. He is survived by his widow, four daughters, Misses Mary, Maude and Grace Humphrey, and Ruth, wife of E. Booth Gruendike, and one son, Sergeant Otis Scott Humphrey, in the "Rainbow Division" of General Pershing's army in France, who was engaged in the practice of law with Walter McClellan Allen and Henry A. Converse in this city when the United States declared war on Germany but who shortly after went to New York City, where he enlisted as a private.

The death of Judge Humphrey removed from the bench an able, conscientious, fearless and virile Judge, and deprived the State of Illinois of one of its most distinguished citi-

zens. Judge Humphrey was a man of varied interests and activities, into all of which he put the force of his intense enthusiasm.

He had all the physical attributes of a real man. He was strong, active, tireless, impressive in speech and bearing, dignified, but friendly and approachable. In a high degree he possessed those rare qualities that make a real executive and true leader of men. He had decision of purpose and the courage to back his judgment.

First and foremost, he was a lawyer and Jurist, although maintaining a close touch with the business and farming interests of Central Illinois. He was closely identified with the civic life of his home city, and was public spirited and patriotic in the truest sense.

His respect for the law was profound. To him the law was to be obeyed and enforced as written, yet to be tempered with mercy, and to

those principles he was ever true, whether as a private practitioner at the Sangamon County Bar, or as a public prosecutor when United States District Attorney, or as Judge upon the Federal bench.

He regarded the law as a science — the noblest creation of human logic and reason. To him the Constitution was the rock upon which rested securely the rights of the American people. He firmly believed in the broad construction of the Constitution, and in a strong government clothed with ample powers, fully equipped and designed to protect our liberties and property.

To him a thoroughly equipped and finished lawyer was the finest type of an educated, upright and broad-minded man, an exemplary citizen, one to be respected and esteemed.

As a lawyer Judge Humphrey was diligent, forceful and ever ready to maintain with judg-

ment and strength the cause of his clients. He feared no antagonist, and could be fairly called a fighting lawyer.

As United States Attorney he was an able and vigorous prosecutor, and while in that office established a reputation that made him the logical selection for the Federal bench.

As a Federal Judge he sat in all the United States District Courts in the State of Illinois, and was frequently assigned to try cases in the United States District Courts of Indiana and Wisconsin. He also frequently sat upon the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, for the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

At the time of his death, Judge Humphrey had for a number of years been the senior United States District Judge in the Seventh Judicial Circuit. His judicial duties brought him in close touch with many of the eminent lawyers of the American Bar, and he early

gained the reputation of being an able, vigorous and fearless Judge. Before him were tried many cases of national importance, and his written opinions, whether sitting as a District Judge or as a member of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, were well reasoned and finely expressed, and received high commendation from the bench and the bar.

He took the keenest pleasure in the society of eminent jurists and lawyers, and as he advanced in years, he became more and more imbued with respect and regard for the law and the courts. He read extensively, being particularly interested in the history of nations and great men. Such research added to his store of knowledge of the growth and development of the law.

It can be justly said that he graced the bench with learning, fidelity and industry. He maintained the highest traditions of the Federal

Judiciary. He surrounded himself in his Court Room with the portraits of all the Federal Judges who had ever sat in this District, and he also secured portraits of the great Chief Justice Marshall and of Justices Chase, Harlan and David Davis of the United States Supreme Court. He studied the personal traits of these eminent jurists, and daily drew inspirations from their splendid characters.

Before going upon the bench, he was most active in politics, being an ardent Republican. He was a natural leader of men, and in the councils of his party he was recognized as able and forceful. He was pre-eminently the Republican leader of Sangamon County, and was also recognized throughout the State as one of the most faithful and effective supporters of the late Shelby M. Cullom.

His devotion to the interests of Mr. Cullom was intense, and extended over a period of

more than thirty years, and Mr. Cullom reciprocated by recognizing his services in selecting him for preferment, and always expressed the keenest satisfaction in his selection.

While in active practice, Judge Humphrey made excellent business connections. He was one of the founders of The Franklin Life Insurance Company, and for twelve years prior to his death was the first vice-president of this institution. He was also a director in the Illinois National Bank and the Sangamon Loan & Trust Company. He was one of a number of business men who erected the Odd Fellows Building, and was also active in the erection of the Illinois National Bank and the Franklin Life Insurance building, three of the finest business buildings in Springfield.

He was intensely interested in the development of farm lands in the Mississippi Valley. He regarded farming and stock raising as a

science, and to better equip himself, while on the bench, he took a course of lectures in agriculture in the University of Illinois, and read extensively upon the art of farming and stock raising.

He acquired large holdings of land in Illinois and Arkansas, having an abiding faith that the Mississippi Valley was the garden spot of the World, far surpassing even the Valley of the Nile.

In fraternal circles he was for many years devoted to the Order of Odd Fellows, and was the recipient of the highest honors bestowed by that Order in this State. He was devoted to the Odd Fellows Orphans Home at Lincoln, Illinois, of which he was for many years a trustee and practically the managing and directing spirit. He was also a member of St. Paul's Lodge No. 500, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and was an active member of

the Sangamo Club and of the Illini Country Club.

Judge Humphrey believed thoroughly in the growth and development of educational institutions, and his interest in such was recognized by his selection as a trustee for Shurtleff College at Upper Alton, Illinois, and as Trustee for the University of Chicago. He considered it the duty of everyone to secure the broadest and most liberal education possible, both in schools of learning and by travel, and these views he consistently carried out in the education of his immediate family. He studied with his children the masters of literature, poetry, art, history and music and gave to them the opportunity of extensive travel.

His natural fondness for art lead him to study the master productions. This he did with rare wisdom and discernment. He delighted in seeking out in the great art collections of

this country and abroad the famous originals. He became a judge of good pictures, and selected for his own home works of real merit.

Judge Humphrey was closely identified with the civic welfare and activities of Springfield, and was frequently called upon to advise in matters of local moment. Whenever he accepted service upon a committee he worked with a will, and effectively. Whenever he accepted the chairmanship of a committee he not only worked with a will but saw to it that everyone else also worked. The fact that he was identified with a movement meant that success was assured.

He devoted much time to the study of the life and character of Abraham Lincoln, and became a recognized authority on the facts and literature pertaining to his life.

He was the organizer of the Lincoln Centennial Association, formed to celebrate the

100th anniversary of the birth of the great Emancipator. This celebration was February 12th, 1909, and was one of the notable events in the history of Springfield. To this city, for this celebration, came eminent statesmen, ambassadors and orators. The event was a brilliant and notable success. Annually thereafter the natal day of Lincoln was celebrated in Springfield under the auspices of this Association. On each of these occasions Judge Humphrey was re-elected President and presided with rare grace and dignity.

It was his ambition to make Springfield a mecca to which annually would come a pilgrimage to do homage to our First Citizen. He had hoped to gradually accumulate a collection of masterly addresses by famous men, delivered at the annual Lincoln Banquets. He had hoped that these addresses might be a distinct addition to the literature on Lincoln — a

sort of Lincolnia in a class by itself. This was a noble ambition, a great lofty idea, a real desire to leave to posterity something fitting in memory of our martyred President.

Being a native son of Illinois, Judge Humphrey took the greatest pride in the history of his native State. He read everything he could find written about Illinois history. He regularly attended the meetings of the Illinois Historical Society, and few men in this State were so well versed as he in the history and story of this great Prairie State and its people.

Nathaniel Pope, the first United States District Judge in Illinois, was also Territorial Governor and delegate to Congress, when Illinois was admitted to the Union. Judge Humphrey delighted to recount the splendid work Nathaniel Pope did in fixing the boundaries of the new State. He was want to regard

the prophetic vision of Nathaniel Pope as almost inspired, and he considered the work of Pope as a priceless heritage handed down to the succeeding Federal Judges. Doubtless Judge Humphrey's love of Illinois history was the inspiration that moved Miss Grace Humphrey, his daughter, to write her most commendable History of Illinois.

When the Great War laid its scourge upon the World Judge Humphrey studied and pondered the underlying causes. He saw that inevitably the United States must throw its weight into the scales for humanity and liberty. His love of country and faith in the American nation became uppermost in his thoughts and conversation. If possible he acquired an additional fervor when his only son and eldest daughter journeyed to France to take their places in the great struggle.

When the first Red Cross Drive was started in Sangamon County, Judge Humphrey was the logical man to lead. The enthusiasm with which he entered upon this campaign and the signal success that crowned the effort, is a matter of such recent history that the mere mention of it suffices to bring it vividly before us. The second Red Cross Drive found him in the hospital, but he promptly made his contribution and sent it to headquarters, there to help put Sangamon County so gloriously over the top.

Religiously Judge Humphrey was a Baptist and was a consistent and regular attendant at the Central Baptist Church. He was active in church life, but was in no sense a narrow sectarian. He was most tolerant of the religious belief of others, but firmly believed that a religious life was essential to the welfare of all right thinking men.

In his family relations Judge Humphrey was ideal, being devoted to his wife and children. His ever present desire was to amply provide for their immediate needs and their future welfare. To that end he had the laudable ambition to leave to them the priceless heritage of a good name and character. It can be fairly said that his ambition for personal preferment was more for those who were near and dear to him than for himself.

His fatal illness was unexpected. He was taken off in the full tide of his strength and reputation. Our last recollection of him will be that of a man possessed of all his mental and physical powers. It seemed that he had many years of further development and usefulness before him, and we mourn what seems to us to be his untimely end — but, knowing him as we did, we must feel that he would have wished to pass to the other side, rather than to have lin-

gered on a helpless invalid, bereft of the physical power and energy that had been his in such a marked degree.

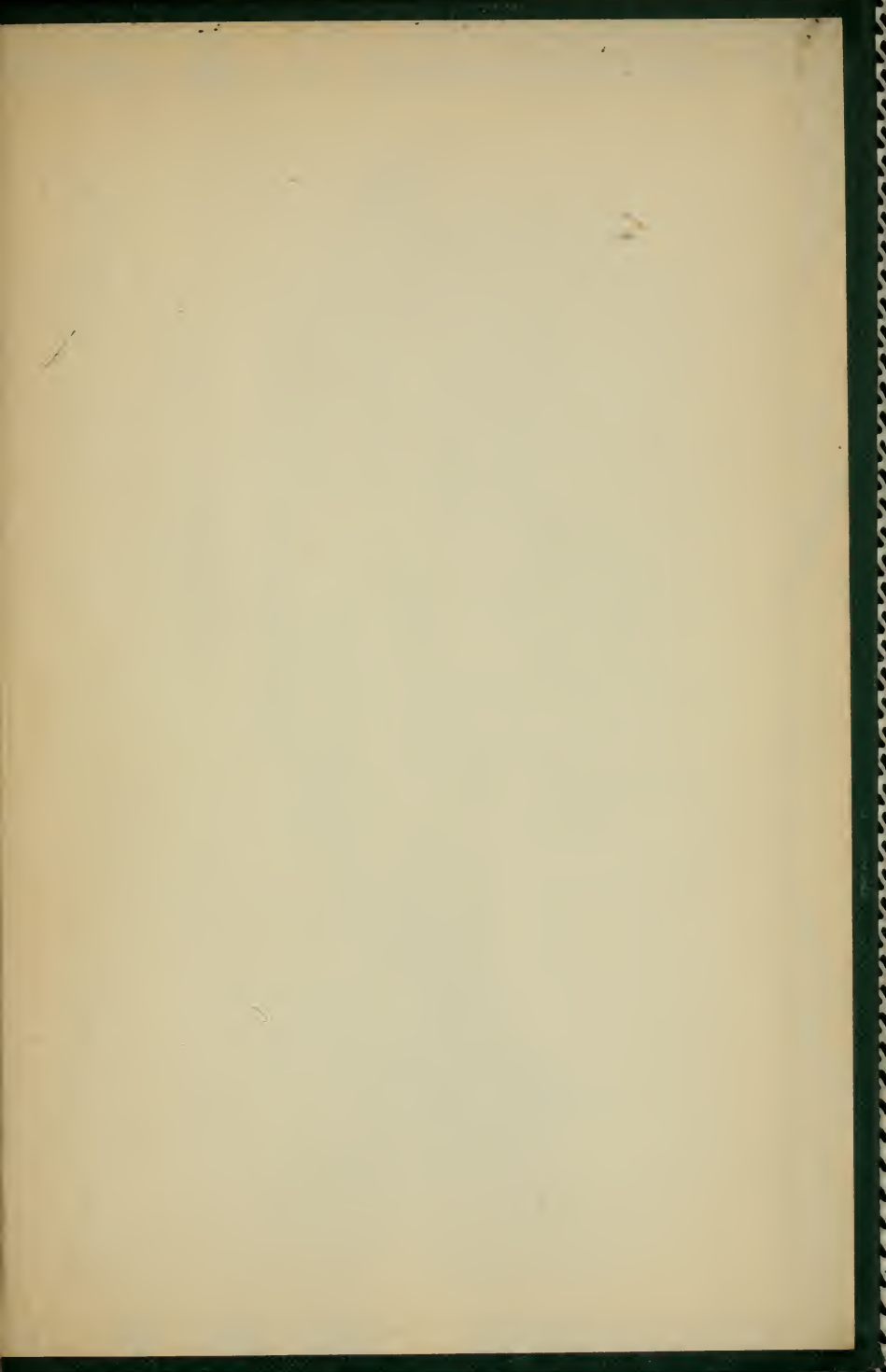
And so we prepare this memorial as a brief and simple tribute to the life and character of J Otis Humphrey.

He was an ideal citizen, an exemplary husband and father, an able lawyer, an eminent Jurist, a fitting example of all of us. His death is a blow to this community and he will be missed and mourned by all.











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